**Field Experience Journal Theme 6**

I learned a lot during my field experience this semester. I learned the most about classroom management and attention seeking behavior. One needs to learn the students’ names and interests as soon as possible, and inappropriate behavior needs to be addressed immediately. I learned that preparation is one of the keys to having successful lessons and that one should always over plan in case one misjudges how long the lessons and activities will take. I need to develop my ability to gauge how long activities will take.

The behavioral problems when Mr. Fuller was absent gave me a better insight into classroom management and discipline. I asked for advice from all of the professionals I worked with. Just observing Mr. Fuller’s day to day lessons gave me a better idea of what it’s like to be a teacher. He uses a good variety of activities to try to keep the students interested and does not lecture more than 10-15 minutes at a time. For the 9th Grade Academy American Studies sections he does not give essay tests anymore because the amount of time it took to grade them was not worth it when compared to the information he actually got from them. I was able to watch him run a multiple choice test through a machine that not only graded the papers, but also entered them into the computer.

Teaching the lessons helped me get more comfortable in the role of a teacher. The most significant thing that I learned from teaching the final lesson was that I really can teach and do it well. I had never taught a lesson of my own design that took up an entire class period before, and it was also the first time I taught my own lesson to actual students instead of peers. I have watched the video of us teaching and evaluated myself. I thought that Brent and I did a good job, and we also received positive feedback from Mr. Fuller and Mr. Sievek. I feel much more confident about going into student teaching now.